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NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

NFIB-M-115

20 December 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

FROM: Walter Elder
Executive Secretary

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SUBJECT: Minutes of the 115th NFIB Meeting;
8 December 1982, 1530-1615 Hours

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Summary of Decisions:

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The Director of Central Intelligence (DCI), with the concurrence of the NFIB principals, approved the Memorandum to Holders of NIE 29.1-81: The Outlook for Greece.

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The DCI, with the concurrence of the NFIB principals, approved NIE 7-82: Political Instability in Key Non-Communist Countries, subject to changes agreed to during the meeting.

The DCI, with the concurrence of the NFIB principals, approved SNIE 83.2-82: Prospects for Escalating Hostilities Between Nicaragua and Honduras, subject to changes agreed to during the meeting.

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Minutes of the Meeting:

1. NIE 29.1-81: The Outlook for Greece
(Memorandum for Holders)

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The Chairman, National Intelligence Council, Mr. Henry Rowen, introduced Mr. Milton Kovner, NIO for Western Europe, to present the estimate for Board consideration.

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Mr. Kovner described the estimate as the first Intelligence Community assessment of the Papandreou government's performance to date, coming at a time when the United States and Greece were beginning negotiations about continuing US base rights. There was a consensus within the Intelligence Community about the force of political and economic constraints on Papandreou; the judgment is that a Greek withdrawal from NATO is unlikely, but the base negotiations will probably be difficult.

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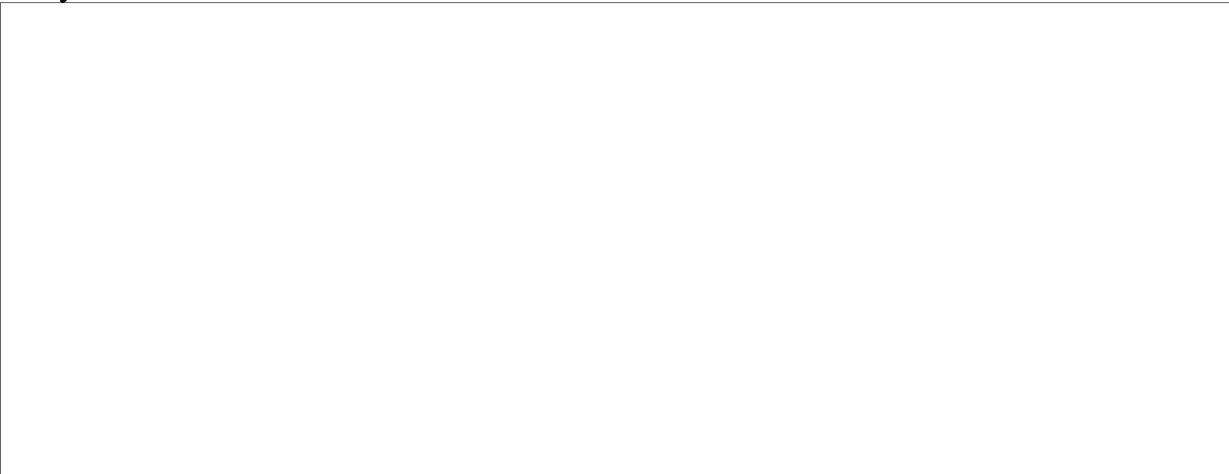
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The final version of the estimate will include a list of economic indicators and a list of US installations and their missions. []

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In response to the DCI's request for comments, the NFIB principals concurred in the estimate. []



2. NIE 7-82: Political Instability in Key Non-Communist Countries

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Mr. Rowen introduced Mr. Hal Ford, NIO At Large, to present the estimate for Board consideration. []

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The DCI, Mr. William J. Casey, noted that this estimate served a useful purpose as a warning document to alert policymakers to upcoming situations before they became critical. []

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Mr. Ford described the estimate as an exercise in prudence which tried to identify those situations which were likely to become worthy of close attention by US policymakers, and to identify the external and internal sources of instability. He said the paper could be considered as an estimate of the third world. It stressed opportunities for US initiatives as well as dangers to US interests. []

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Mr. Ford stressed the fact that in many instances our intelligence information was far from firm and that judgments about placing situations in specific categories could well be divergent. He asked the Board to consider the advisability of publishing the 94-page paper in two volumes as was done in the previous edition to ensure that the busy senior official would at least pay attention to the Key Judgments. []



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[REDACTED]

The DCI noted that the listing of indicators was a valuable guide and should be highlighted. [REDACTED]

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The Deputy Director for Intelligence, CIA, Mr. Robert Gates, said that his organization would begin publishing in 1983 a quarterly review on instability and would plan to use indicators similar in many respects to those in the estimate. He said that it was his personal view that [REDACTED] were more urgent than the estimate indicated, but, like Mr. Montgomery, he saw no need to revise the estimate at this point. [REDACTED]

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Mr. Gates agreed that 94 pages was too much for the busy official to absorb. He advocated breaking the estimate into two volumes, and suggested that we aim generally at a goal of 8-10 printed pages for most estimates. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

With the concurrence of the NFIB principals, the DCI approved the estimate, subject to changes directed during the meeting. [REDACTED]

3. SNIE 83.2-82: Prospects for Escalating Hostilities Between Nicaragua and Honduras

Mr. Rowen introduced Mr. Constantine Menges, the NIO for Latin America, to present the estimate for Board consideration. [REDACTED]

Mr. Menges observed that this estimate had been directed on 3 December 1982, and he commended the Intelligence Community for its role in producing the paper on a fast-track cycle. [REDACTED]

Using a change sheet which was distributed to the principals at the meeting, Mr. Menges presented a list of proposed changes which were adopted. [REDACTED]

With the concurrence of the NFIB principals, the DCI approved the estimate, as amended during the meeting. [REDACTED]

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NFIB Meeting, 8 December 1982, 1530-1615 Hours

THOSE PARTICIPATING

Mr. William J. Casey, Chairman
Mr. John N. McMahon, Vice Chairman
Mr. Robert Gates, Deputy Director for Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Hugh Montgomery, Director of Intelligence and Research, Department of State
Lieutenant General James A. Williams, U.S. Army, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Lieutenant General Lincoln D. Faurer, U.S. Air Force, Director, National Security Agency
Mr. Edward C. Aldridge, Under Secretary of the Air Force
Mr. Douglas Mulholland, Special Assistant to the Secretary (National Security), Department of the Treasury
Mr. James Nolan, Acting for Assistant Director, Intelligence Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Brigadier General Harry E. Soyster, U.S. Army, Acting for Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army
Mr. Clarke Magruder, Acting for Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy
Brigadier General Schuyler Bissell, U.S. Air Force, Acting for Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force
Mr. John Guenther, Acting for Director of Intelligence, United States Marine Corps
Mr. Herman Roser, Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs, Department of Energy

THOSE ATTENDING

Miss Eloise Page, Deputy Director, Intelligence Community Staff
Mr. Henry Rowen, Chairman, National Intelligence Council
Mr. Milton Kovner, NIO for Western Europe
Mr. Harold Ford, NIO At Large
Mr. Constantine Menges, NIO for Latin America

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